

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

A. J. CAYWOOD, Publisher.

LACLEDE - - - MISSOURI.

"What is more potent than the dollar?" Oh a few millions of it.

Mrs. Langtry is 50 years old, but at a little distance you can scarcely notice it.

A western observer says that almost all the street railway companies now run "Pay-as-you-enter" cars.

Philadelphia boasts of a magazine devoted exclusively to aeronautics. One of those fly-by-night publishing concerns, eh?

It is claimed that the mound builders were the first baseball players, but nobody has ever discovered anything to indicate that they were the first umpire maimers.

Asbestos sheets are being instituted under the mattresses of sleeping cars on some of the railways of the United States to shut out the heat from the radiators underneath.

The elevator originated in central Europe. The earliest mention of the elevator is made in a letter of Napoleon I. addressed to his wife, Archduchess Maria Louise.

Dr. Hillis thinks the millennium has arrived. The man who needs 14 tons of hard coal and doesn't know where he is going to get the money to pay for it is probably convinced that a millennium doesn't amount to much, after all.

A simplified spelling society in England wants to have school children taught to spell by ear. To show how tastes differ, it is a matter of common complaint among business men here that some of the graduates of the common schools spell that way now.

Can the proposition that the minimum salary for an unmarried Episcopalian clergyman in the diocese of New York should be \$1,200 and for a married clergyman \$1,200 with a suitable place to live in, or \$1,500 in money, be taken as an official statement of the exact cost of a wife?

When the officers of the American battleships arrived at Tokyo last month they were welcomed by crowds of school children, who sang "Hail Columbia" and other American songs in English. When have American school children ever welcomed foreign visitors by singing songs in their native tongue?

In view of the fact that the price of stock exchange seats in New York has jumped recently from \$70,000 to \$75,000, it is a little discouraging to learn that the owner of a pew in fashionable Grace church, on lower Broadway, which he bought for \$3,000, has been able to get only \$1,100 bid for it, at auction.

Cornetists standing in the belfry of the Park Street church in Boston played "America" at noon on October 21, in honor of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Rev. S. F. Smith, the author of the words sung to the music in this country. "America" was first sung publicly in this church, on July 4, 1832.

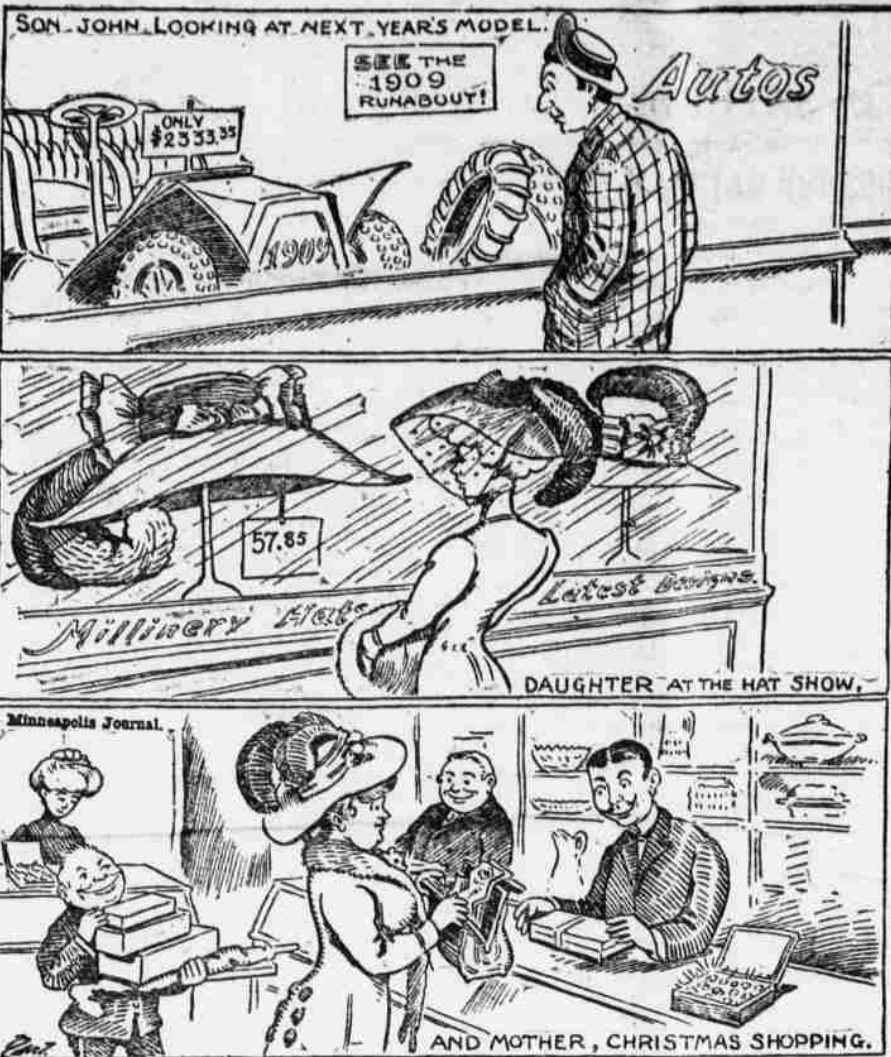
About 250 buffalo, remnant of the famous Pablo herd recently purchased by the Dominion government, will be taken from Montana and placed in the new buffalo park on Baltic river, a thousand miles northwest of Winnipeg. The animals now are being rounded up by Michael Pablo in Montana and will be brought north in special trains.

There has recently been opened in one of London's fashionable streets a toilet club for dogs. There the pets of the smart set can have their hair dressed and their coats trimmed to immaculate perfection. For three shillings they can be bathed. If their teeth are imperfect they can be filled or extracted, and if their claws protrude too far they can be daintily manicured.

Germany in 20 years has increased its yearly mining product from 100,000,000 metric tons to 242,609,000 metric tons, worth \$439,086,200. Coal forms 85 per cent. of the output. Other minerals are salt, iron ores, copper, lead, zinc, pyrites, gold, silver, manganese, arsenic, saltpeter, vitriol and alum. The workmen number about 700,000, and the companies about 2,000.

Dr. Norman Dittman has received the Gibbs prize of \$20,000, offered by the New York academy for the best original research work on the kidneys. The prize was founded to create an interest in the study of Bright's disease. Dr. Dittman's investigations tried to account for the unnecessary two-thirds of man's meat diet, and to see if this had any close connection with the poisons present in the system of a person afflicted with Bright's disease.

WHY IS FATHER WORRIED?



MANY THOUSANDS KILLED

INDUSTRY'S ENORMOUS TOLL OF DEATH LAST YEAR.

Figures Gathered by Bureau of Labor Show Steel and Iron Work the Most Fatal.

Washington, D. C.—Between 30,000 and 35,000 deaths and 2,000,000 injuries is the accident record in the United States in the last year among workmen, according to a bulletin on accidents issued Monday by the Bureau of Labor.

Of those employed in factories and workshops, it is stated that probably the most exposed class are the workers in iron and steel. Fatal accidents among electricians and electrical linemen and coal miners are declared to be excessive, while railway trainmen to 1,000.

The bulletin declares that much that could be done for the protection of the workmen is neglected, though many and far-reaching improvements have been introduced in factory practices in the last decade.

It is pointed out that the possibilities for successful accident prevention have been clearly demonstrated in the experience of foreign countries.

"Granting," the bulletin states, "that the underlying conditions in European countries are often quite different and that many of our industrial accidents may be the result of ignorant, reckless indifference or carelessness, the fact remains that an immense amount of human life is wasted and a vast amount of injury is done to health and strength, with resulting physical impairment, which has a very considerable economic value to the nation as a whole."

It is insisted that it should not be impossible to save at least one-third and perhaps one-half by intelligent and rational methods of factory inspection, legislation and control.

Mr. Taft in New York.

New York.—President-elect William H. Taft, speaking Sunday night at the dedication of a McKinley memorial organ in Metropolitan temple, told an audience which repeatedly interrupted him with applause, the story of his official association with the late president and declared with reference to the Philippine islands that the policy laid down by Mr. McKinley in 1900 had been the policy of the present as it will be the policy of his own administration in the White House.

A Woman Jointist Sentenced.

Leavenworth, Kan.—In the district court here Tuesday Acting Judge Dill sentenced Mrs. Catherine Karst to six months in the county jail and to pay a fine of \$20 for violation of the prohibitory law. Mrs. Karst is the first woman in Kansas ever sentenced to jail under this law. She refused a parole to refrain from violating the law for two years. Charles Goffman, the woman's son-in-law, was given a similar sentence.

Chicago's Big Murder List.

Chicago.—The report of the bureau of records of the police department, issued Tuesday, shows that 156 persons were murdered in Chicago in the year 1908. Of the murders 24 remain unsolved. In the year 1905, 173 murders were committed, which is the highest number recorded.

THE PANAMA CANAL CHARGES.

President Sends Message to Senate Regarding Them.

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt sent to the senate Tuesday a statement concerning the purchase of the Panama canal property by the United States, denouncing in strong language charges that there was anything wrong in the acquisition by the United States of the canal property.

"These stories," he continues, "were first brought to my attention as published in a paper in Indianapolis, called the News, edited by Mr. Delevan Smith. The stories were scurrilous and libelous in character and false in every essential particular. Mr. Smith shelters himself behind the excuse that he merely accepted the statements which had appeared in a paper published in New York, the World, owned by Mr. Joseph Pulitzer."

"It is idle to say that the known character of Mr. Pulitzer and his newspaper are such that the statements in that paper will be believed by nobody. Unfortunately, thousands of persons are ill-informed in this respect and believe the statements they see printed even though they appear in a newspaper published by Mr. Pulitzer."

"The attorney general has under consideration the form in which the proceedings against Mr. Pulitzer shall be brought."

THE POPULAR VOTE.

The Grand Total Exceeds That Cast in 1904 by 1,341,531.

New York.—The total popular vote of the presidential candidates at the last national election was made known Tuesday in an official form by the filing of the last of the official votes that of Michigan. The total shows the following votes cast:

Taft, (Republican)	7,637,676
Bryan, (Democrat)	6,353,182
Debs, (Socialist)	48,548
Chafin, (Prohibition)	24,252
Hisgen, (Independence)	83,186
Watson, (Populist)	33,871
Gilhaus, (Socialist Labor)	15,421

Total for all candidates, 14,852,235. This grand total exceeds by 1,341,531 the total number of votes cast in the presidential election of 1904 when the grand total was 13,510,708.

Compared with that election, the candidates of the Republican, Democratic and Socialist party increased their vote this year. The reverse is true of the candidates of the Prohibition, Populist and Socialist Labor parties. The Independence party did not figure in the presidential election of four years ago.

Human Remains 170,000 Years Old.

Paris.—Abbes Bouysson and Bar don, who are conducting excavations at Chapelle-Aux-Saints, in the Cor reze department, have discovered what are believed to be the oldest human remains dating back 170,000 years to the middle of the Pleistocene age, the latest period of geological history. The skull presents a strong resemblance to that of a monkey, having a long jaw and being devoid of canine teeth. The other bones are arched, showing that man usually walked on all fours. The skeleton has been acquired by the natural history museum of Paris.

Injured in Boiler Explosion.

Minneapolis.—Fifteen persons were injured, one fatally, in a boiler explosion at the cement factory of A. E. Nelson Monday.

A CANAL DISASTER.

Twenty-One Tons of Dynamite Exploded Prematurely.

Washington.—Fourteen are known to be dead, three of them Americans and 50 injured as a result of the premature explosions of 21 tons of dynamite at Bas Opispo in the Panama canal zone Saturday, according to an official dispatch received Sunday from Chief Engineer Goethals. The message follows:

"The premature explosion of 21 tons of dynamite at Bas Opispo at 11:10 Saturday morning resulted in the death of 14 men and the injury of 50. Three or four of the injured will probably die. The following Americans were killed: James L. Hummer, crane-man, steamshovel, Dunnellen, N. J.; John J. Korp, steamshovel engineer, Phillipsburg, N. J.; John J. Reidy, powderman, Indianapolis, Ind. Seriously wounded: Benjamin H. Cole, foreman, Rochester, N. Y.

Thirteen bodies have been recovered, but it is believed that a score or more are still under the masses of rocks and earth that were thrown up. The death list would have been appalling had a train conveying 500 laborers passed a few minutes later. This train had just passed through the cut and was barely out of view when the explosion occurred.

The charge consisted of 51 holes 60 feet deep and spread out over a large section of territory. The last hole was being charged by John J. Reidy, an experienced powder man, when it exploded. The others were exploded by the concussion. Reidy was blown to pieces.

DUTCH SEIZE A VESSEL.

The Gelderland Captures a Venezuelan Coast Guardship.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao.—The Dutch cruiser Gelderland came into this port Sunday morning towing the Venezuelan coast guardship Alix with the Dutch flag flying and a Dutch crew on board. The Gelderland captured the Alix off Puerto Cabello on Saturday. At that time the Alix was lying close in shore and notwithstanding the threat which the Venezuelan government had made to fire upon any of the Dutch warships committing a hostile act, the Gelderland steamed at speed toward the guardship and sent an officer and guard in a launch to seize her. This they did without resistance and no shots came from the forts on land.

The crew of the Alix was put ashore and the Dutch officers and marines remained on board, the Gelderland finally taking the Alix in tow and steaming away with her prize.

He Need Not Answer.

Washington, D. C.—In an opinion by Justice Holmes, the Supreme court of the United States held Monday that E. H. Harriman and Otto Kahn, the latter a New York banker, should not be required to answer the interstate commerce commission's questions concerning dealings in stocks between the Union Pacific and other roads to which they refused to make response when the subject was under investigation in New York.

Battleships Reach Colombo.

Colombo, Ceylon.—The United States battleship fleet was anxiously awaited by a great gathering of Europeans and natives at Colombo. The fleet, which was sighted at seven o'clock Sunday morning, approached slowly in single file. The flagship Connecticut, with Rear Admiral Sperry aboard, entered the harbor at nine o'clock, the others following at short intervals.

"Ik Marvel" Dead.

New Haven, Conn.—Donald Grant Mitchell, 84 years old, the well known author who wrote under the nom de plume "Ik Marvel," died at his home, "Marvelwood," in Edgewood, a suburb, Tuesday night. His illness dates to August last when he suffered an attack of acute indigestion.

Preached 52 Years.

Greenville, Pa.—Rev. Dr. John A. Kunkleman, a prominent Lutheran minister, died here Tuesday after 52 years of active services in the ministry. He successively held pastorates in Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Nebraska City, Neb., Fort Wayne, Ind., and New York City.

Senator Hansbrough Very Weak.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Senator H. C. Hansbrough of North Dakota, who was operated upon Friday for tumor in the ear, spent a fairly comfortable day and Sunday night was resting easily. He still has considerable fever and is extremely weak from the operation.

Government Made Millions.

Paris, France.—The report of the state tobacco monopoly filed Tuesday shows that the French nation last year consumed 100 million dollars worth of tobacco, upon which the government made a profit of 75 million dollars.

MORE OF PANAMA MATTER

PRESIDENT SENDS ANOTHER LETTER TO CONGRESS.

Examination of Archives Shows That Government Never Had a List of Canal Stockholders.

Washington.—President Roosevelt Wednesday sent to congress a letter of the secretary of war, transmitting a memorandum prepared by Judge Charlton, law officer of the bureau of insular affairs, and Richard R. Rogers, the general counsel of the Isthmian canal commission, bearing further upon the charges that Americans were interested in the Panama canal property at the time of the purchase by the United States. The memorandum states that at the time the property was transferred it included the so-called "Archives," and they are now in possession of this government.

Examination of these archives by Messrs. Charlton and Rogers show, however, that neither at the time of the first examination nor now were there any lists of stockholders in the formal minutes. The minutes of the last meeting prior to the transfer of the property were not contained in the archives surrendered and the law officers say that the United States government has no concern in them. It is believed to be impossible, therefore, to gather from the records the names of any Americans, if any, who profited by the sale of the property.

Guthrie to Be a Division Point.

Guthrie, Ok.—Prominent Santa Fe officials here on a tour of inspection Wednesday, including R. J. Parker, general superintendent of the Eastern Grand division with headquarters at Newton, and General Passenger Agent J. M. Connell, announced that the general office and shops of the system now located at Arkansas City will be moved to Guthrie early in the coming year. The transfer will make Guthrie the main division point of the Santa Fe in Oklahoma.

Who Gets the Mule?

Mount Vernon, Illinois.—The claim of Allegheny county, Maryland, that it is entitled to the trick mule of William J. Bryan because of having the largest Democratic gain of any county in the country, is disputed by local Democrats. They assert that Marion county's Democratic vote was 60 per cent greater this year than in 1904, Bryan receiving 4,001 votes to Parker's 2,490. Allegheny county claimed the mule because of a gain of 22½ per cent.

Many Disasters to Vessels.

Washington.—There were 1,094 vessel disasters in the United States in the last fiscal year, resulting in a property loss of \$1,863,790, and the loss of 22 lives, according to the annual report of General Superintendent Kimball of the United States Life Saving service. Because of the assistance of the life savers, it is pointed out of \$13,000,000 worth of property, more than \$11,000,000 worth was saved.

Horticulturists Elect Officers.

Council Bluffs, Ia.—Wednesday afternoon the following officers were elected for the National Horticultural congress for the coming year: President, W. S. Keeline, Council Bluffs; vice president, Capt. J. H. Shawhan, Payette, Ida.; secretary-treasurer, G. W. Reye, Council Bluffs. Executive committee: C. W. Atherton, T. A. Barker, W. S. Rich, Charles A. Beno, W. S. Keeline, all of Council Bluffs.

A Saloon Is Robbed.

Sedalia, Missouri.—Robbers entered the saloon of Shuman & Rohling at Cole Camp, Benton county, Tuesday night. They blew open the safe and escaped with \$120.

A Heavy Bank Shortage.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A defalcation of \$85,000 has been discovered in the First National bank of Somersworth, N. H. The cashier has been arrested, and the directors have asked the bank examiner to take possession of the institution with a view to voluntary liquidation.

Killed by a Train.

Frankfort, Kansas.—Harvey Rickert was killed by the noon passenger train on the Grand Island Tuesday at Carden, a few miles north of here.

Failure of an Ohio Bank.

Napoleon, Ohio.—The Citizens' State bank assigned to D. D. Donovan Tuesday night. The failure is said to have been caused by poor loans and it is also said that it was brought about by the Ohio German Insurance company's failure.

A Collision in France.

Limoges, France.—A collision between a freight and a passenger train near here Wednesday resulted in the death of 15 persons and the injury of 30 other.